

CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for blocking and releasing a door lock of an electrical appliance, comprising:
 - 5 - a blocking and release unit (12), which in a blocking state blocks a locked door lock (2) of an electrical appliance and in a release state enables unlocking of the door lock, and
 - an emergency release unit (14), which in an abnormal operating state of the electrical appliance brings the blocking and release unit (12) into the release state.
- 10 2. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:
 - the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the blocking state by means of a working connection to the door lock (2) in response to locking of the latter, or
 - the blocking and release unit (12) in a locked state of the door lock (2) assumes the blocking state in a controlled manner.
- 15 20 3. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that:
 - the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the release state in an operating state of the electrical appliance, for which an unlocking of the door lock (2) is desirable and/or permissible.
- 25 4. Apparatus according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that:
 - the blocking and release unit (12) comprises an electromagnetic actuator (16) for a crossover from the blocking state into the release state.
- 30 5. Apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that:
 - the electromagnetic actuator (16) is designed to effect a crossover from the release state into the blocking state.

6. Apparatus according to one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that:
 - the emergency release unit (14) has an idle state
and a working state, wherein the emergency release
unit (14) in the event of a crossover from the working
state into the idle state brings the blocking and
release unit (12) into the release state.
7. Apparatus according to one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that:
 - the emergency release unit (14) assumes the working
state by means of a working connection to the blocking
and release unit (12) in response to a crossover of
the latter into the blocking state.
8. Apparatus according to one of claims 1 to 6,
characterized in that:
 - the emergency release unit (14) assumes the working
state in a controlled manner when the blocking and
release unit (12) is situated in the blocking state or
before the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the
blocking state.
9. Apparatus according to one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that;
 - during normal operation of the electrical appliance
the emergency release unit (14) assumes its idle state
in response to a crossover of the blocking and release
unit (12) from the blocking state into the release
state.
10. Apparatus according to one of claims 1 to 9,
characterized in that;
 - the emergency release unit (14) comprises an
actuator (50) for effecting a crossover into the
working state and a force-generating element (46) for
effecting a crossover into the idle state.

11. Apparatus according to one of claims 1 to 9,
characterized in that;
- the emergency release unit (14) comprises an
actuator (50) for effecting a crossover into the idle
5 state and a force-generating element (46) for
effecting a crossover into the working state.
12. Apparatus according to claim 10 or 11, characterized
in that:
10 - the force-generating element (46) is a spring.
13. Apparatus according to one of claims 10 to 12,
characterized in that:
- the actuator (50) is a heat-sensitive element, a
15 thermoelement or a wax motor.
14. Apparatus according to one of claims 10 to 13,
characterized in that:
- the emergency release unit (14) comprises an energy
20 supply device for the actuator (50), which device is
designed to supply energy to the actuator (50) for
activating the latter in the event of abnormal
operation of the electrical appliance.
- 25 15. Apparatus according to one of the preceding claims,
characterized by:
- a release device for the emergency release
unit (14), which device in dependence upon parameters
30 characterizing an abnormal operating state of the
electrical appliance allows a crossover of the
emergency release unit (14) into the idle state.